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Medicaid Changes

You are seeing changes in Medicaid this year. Many Medicaid consumers are affected by new changes in services starting in 2002. Changes like these happen because people need more health care than the State can afford. There will be other changes in the Medicaid program. Watch for more information in the next few months.

\$220.00 Hospital co-insurance.

Effective February 1, 2002, some Medicaid consumers must pay \$220 co-insurance for the first hospital admission of the year.

Who is excluded?

- ☐ Children under 18
- ☐ Pregnant women
- ☐ Residents of nursing homes
- ☐ Families with income below the **FEP** (Family Employment Program) limit
- ☐ Persons with Medicare

The \$220 co-insurance is paid:

- < by Medicaid clients, HMO or no HMO
- < for your first hospital stay of the year **unless** you are admitted to a hospital in an emergency such as: auto accident, heart attack, mental health crisis.
- < for each family member not excluded

How do you know if you have to pay hospital co-insurance?

Look closely at your Medicaid card. It says if you have a co-pay or co-insurance for some Medicaid services. If there's no message, you don't pay. See the sample below:

Example: Jim needs surgery on his leg. He will be in the hospital at least three days. Jim owes coinsurance of \$220.

Keep your co-insurance receipt!

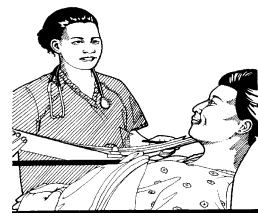
Once you pay the **\$220** co-insurance tell Medicaid. After you pay the hospital it takes time before the hospital bills your HMO or Medicaid. Your Medical card prints the co-insurance statement until Medicaid gets a claim or knows you paid the hospital.

1. Be sure to ask for a receipt when you pay the hospital. Always keep a copy.
2. Medicaid takes off the **"co-insurance"** message from the next month's Medicaid card if the receipt is valid

3. Once Medicaid has proof you paid hospital co-insurance for the year, you:

- Don't pay another hospital co-insurance until January 2003
- Still pay other co-pays listed on your Medicaid card
- Mail your co-insurance receipt to Medicaid Operations
P.O. Box 146106
SLC, UT 84114-3106

The hospital can bill you for the \$220. If you don't pay, the hospital can send the bill to a collection agency.



Overnight stays for Medical Services

Medicaid pays for one night of food and lodging if you travel out of town for Medicaid services.

To qualify for a refund, you must:

- travel more than 100 miles one way
- not be able to return home by 8:00pm

The refund is **only** for the night after the appointment, not for the night before.

If you plan to stay one night only:

1. You don't need to be pre-approved (a "prior") for an overnight trip
2. Take any receipts to your eligibility worker who:
 - < Reviews your request (she may verify the medical services)
 - < Gives you a refund for the expenses
 - <

If you stay more than one night, Medicaid must approve the expense. Your reason for staying must be medically necessary. To be sure you can get a refund for more than one night ask your eligibility worker for a "prior".

Plan Ahead! Priors take at least a week to process. Medicaid can approve the expense without a prior, but, you are taking a chance. You may get a refund for one night only.

Adults - Helping you quit smoking

Medicaid now pays for *Zyban*. It is a prescription drug used to help with nicotine withdrawal. Talk to your doctor to find out if you can use *Zyban*. Ask about side effects, or if there are medications you cannot take with it.

Medicaid Requires a Blood Lead Test for All Medicaid Eligible Children

If your child is on Medicaid, they are required to have a blood lead test. In Utah, Medicaid requires a blood test for children at 12 and 24 months of age and any time from 24-72 months when a child has not been previously tested.

Why worry about lead? Lead is a heavy metal that is highly toxic to many organs and systems when absorbed. It may cause behavior problems such as hyperactivity or irritability and learning problems such as difficulty reading or poor concentration. The problem with lead poisoning is that it often has no symptoms. Most children who are lead poisoned look and act healthy.

Lead was used in many materials and products. Lead from paint is the biggest cause of lead poisoning. Lead was taken out of paint in 1978. Your child is at risk for lead poisoning if she or he:

- Lives in or regularly visits a home built before 1960 (includes daycare)
- Lives in or regularly visits a house built before 1978 with recent or ongoing remodeling
- Has a sibling or playmate that has or did have lead poisoning
- Comes in contact with an adult who works with lead (Examples are construction, welding, pottery, car battery/auto repair, ammunition, stained glass)

The only way to be certain that your child does not have lead poisoning is to have his or her blood tested. The test is a quick, simple finger-stick and can be done in your doctor’s office. Ask your doctor for a lead test during your next well-child exam. The test is required and paid for by Medicaid.

If you have more questions about lead poisoning or prevention tips, please contact Lead Free Kids at (801) 534-4558. If you live outside Salt Lake County, contact the Utah Department of Health at (801) 535-6191.

Bureau of Eligibility Services - South County & Taylorsville Offices are Moving.

Taylorsville and South County Department of Health staff are moving to a new location in April 2002. The new address will be:

6671 South Redwood Road, Suite 110
West Jordan, UT 84084.

The new phone number is: 801-270-1320.

FREE SUMMER MEALS FOR KIDS

Want to stretch your food budget this summer? In many communities, free summer meals are available. The Summer Food Program offers FREE MEALS to kids, ages 1 to 18. There



are over 120 sites throughout Utah where free lunches are served for most of the summer. Many kids think of it as a picnic and they often live close enough to walk or bike to the *Summer Food Site*. Anyone 19 years and older may eat for a small fee of \$2.25 - \$2.50.

Free *Summer Food* meals are served Monday through Friday. A few sites offer free breakfast, too. Most *Summer Food* sites are in schools, but some sites are in parks, and a few more are in Boys and Girls Clubs and other non-profit agencies. To find the closest Summer Food Program call your school or Utahns Against Hunger at:

1-800-453-3663.

If you would like to see a program in your community, or would like more information, please call Utahns Against Hunger, your local school district, and /or the Office of Child Nutrition at the State Office of Education **801-538-7680**.

Health Clinics of Utah Get primary health care with: Medicaid, UMAP, a Medicaid HMO, Medicare, private pay or most insurance. The clinics are listed on the chart below.

Resources

Check Your Health Hotline	1-888-222-2542
Health related information and referral	
Medicaid Hotline	1-800-662-9651
Baby Your Baby Hotline	1-800-826-9662
Prenatal and Child Health Care Information	
CHIP	1-888-222-2542
Children’s Health Insurance Program	
Immunize by Two	1-800-275-0659
Baby Watch Program	1-800-961-4226
Early Intervention - birth to 3	
Utah Teen Tobacco Quit Line	1-888-567-TRUTH
Family Dental Plan - Salt Lake	1-801-468-0342
Ogden	1-801-394-4495
Provo	1-801-374-7011
St. George	1-435-652-3806
Health Clinics of Utah - Salt Lake	1-801-468-0354
Cannon Bldg	1-801-538-9424
Ogden	1-801-626-3670
Provo	1-801-374-7011
Medicaid Constituent Services	1-877-291-5583
Randa Pickle	1-801-538-6417
DOH website:	http://www.health.state.ut.us .
Send comments or suggestions about the Clientell to: Medicaid Constituent Services, PO Box 143107, Salt Lake City, Ut 84114-3107	